

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the above identified application, in view of the above amendments and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

**Status of the Specification**

The Specification has been amended but no new matter has been added. The amendment completes the sentence as noted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

Applicants have also corrected the Abstract to be in narrative form. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

**Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-8 and 10-13 are pending.

Claim 5 has been amended and no new matter has been added.

Claim 9 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Claims 10-13 has been added. Support for claims 10-13 can be found in the Specification in Fig. 1, Fig. 2, page 5, lines 9-14, and page 7, lines 6-10.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,607,732 to Ikeoka et al. (“Ikeoka”). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites "a plurality of said intermediate gears and said intermediate pinions are concentrically provided with each other." The Examiner contends that Ikeoka discloses all the elements of the claimed invention. Specifically, the Examiner contends that main gears 178, acting as intermediate gears as claimed, are concentric with drive pinions 158, acting as intermediate pinions as claimed.

However, Applicants submit that Ikeoka's main gears 178 and drive pinions 158 are not concentric to each other. Figure 7 illustrates drive pinions 158 centered about drive shaft 160 while main gears 178 are mounted to crankshaft 192 about axis 180 (see Ikeoka, column 4, lines 9-24). In Ikeoka, drive shaft 160 is not centered about axis 180, and thus Ikeoka does not disclose "a plurality of said intermediate gears and said intermediate pinions ... concentrically provided with each other," as set forth in claim 1. As such, Ikeoka fails to disclose all the aspects of the present invention.

Claims 2-8 depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable based at least on their dependence on the independent claim. Applicants respectfully submit that Ikeoka does not teach or suggest every element of claim 1 and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

### CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated June 24, 2005 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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